

CLAIMS

1. Server-based computing system, comprising at least one server (1) and at least one client computer (5), connected to the server (1) through a network (2), wherein the server (1) comprises means for providing the client computer (5) with a user interface, wherein the client computer (5) comprises an input device (8) for providing input to an application through the user interface and a display device (7) for presenting output from an application through the user interface, wherein the server (1) comprises means for running the application, wherein the client computer (5) comprises means (6) for locally running at least one further application, wherein the system comprises means for controlling the locally run applications through the user interface provided by the server (1).

2. System according to claim 1, comprising means for controlling an application running on the server (1) and further applications, running locally, through the user interface.

3. System according to claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises means (14,15) for initiating a locally run application.

4. System according to claim 1, comprising means (13, 14, 15) for presenting an overview of available applications installed on the server (1) and on the client computer (5) through the user interface.

5. System according to claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises means (11) for presenting an overview of applications running on the client computer (5) and/or the server (1).

6. System according to claim 1, comprising means for generating a merged local client screen (16), for display on the display device (7).

7. System according to claim 6, wherein the server (1) comprises means for controlling the display of

the merged local client screen (16) on the display device (7).

8. System according to claim 6, wherein the client computer (5) comprises means for generating a local client screen area (9), comprising visual output from the locally run applications, and the server (1) comprises means for generating a screen area (10), wherein the system comprises means for merging the local client screen area (9) and the screen area (10) generated by the server (1), to form the local client screen (16).

9. System according to claim 8, comprising means for automatically updating the local client screen (16), when changes occur in the local client screen area (9) and/or in the screen area (10) generated by the server (1).

10. System according to claim 1, comprising means (12, 18, 20) for selecting a running application and means for providing input to the selected application or presenting output from the selected application on the client computer (5) through the user interface.

11. Method for providing a client computer (5) with a user interface for controlling at least one application that can be run locally on the client computer (5), which client computer (5) is connected to a server (1) through a network (2) and comprises a display device (7), an input device (8) and means (6) for running the application, wherein the user interface to the applications is provided by the server (1).

12. Method according to claim 11, wherein a screen area (10) is generated by the server (1) and communicated to the client computer (5) for display on the display device (7).

13. Method according to claim 11, wherein a local client screen area (9) comprising visual output from the applications running on the client computer (5) is generated by the client computer (5) and merged with the screen area (10) generated by the server (1), to form a local client screen (16), for display on the display device (7).

14. Method according to claim 13, wherein instructions are sent from the server (1) to the client computer (5) concerning the mode of display of the local client screen (16), on the display device (7).

5 15. Method according to claim 14, wherein the local client screen (16) is automatically updated when changes occur in the local client screen area (9) and/or in the screen area (10) generated by the server (1).

10 16. Method according claim 11, wherein a command to change the local client screen (16) is communicated from the client computer (5) to the server (1), whereupon the local client screen (16) is changed by the server (1).

15 17. Method according to claim 11, wherein a command to initiate the local running of an application on the client computer (5) is sent to the server (1) and wherein a command line for initiating the running of the application is generated by the server (1) and sent to the client computer (5).

20 18. Computer program that can be loaded onto a server connected through a network (2) to a client computer (5), so that the server running the computer program constitutes a server (1) in a system according to claim 1.

25 19. Computer program that can be loaded onto a computer connected through a network (2) to a server (1), so that the computer running the computer program constitutes a client computer (5) in a system according to claim 1.